

CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

1900 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 445-0184



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 25, 2003

03-0013

To: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing

From: Sam W. Swofford, Ed.D., Executive Director

Subject: Approval of an Addition to California Code of Regulations, Title 5 Section 80020.1, Pertaining to Additional Assignment Authorizations for Specific Special Education Credentials

The Office of Administrative Law approved amendments to Title 5 Section 80020.1 pertaining to Additional Assignment Authorizations for Specific Special Education Credentials that will become effective May 7, 2003.

These regulations align the authorizations of both pre-Ryan special education credentials (General and Standards) with the Ryan Specialist Credential and the low incidence disability areas of the Ryan Specialist Credential with the current Ryan Education Specialist Credential through the use of an assignment option. The option allows local employing agencies to assign special education credential holders to serve students age birth to preschool consistent with the special education subject area of their credential. The teacher must also meet the experience requirement of the regulations and have the requisite knowledge and skills to serve in the assignment. Teacher consent is required.

The Pre-Ryan credentials, those issued as General and Standard credentials, did not include an authorization for the age level of birth to preschool as that age level of special education students were not being served at the time the documents were issued. In 1997, in response to changes to federal law, the Commission developed an Early Childhood Special Education Credential and Certificate to serve mild/moderate and moderate/severe students and expanded the grade levels for the low incidence areas from birth to age 22.

Assignment Option Requirements

These regulations allow local employing agencies the option to assign individuals, with their consent, to serve students within the disability area of their credentials but outside the grade level of their credentials if they meet the experience component in the regulations. This option is proposed to assist those who taught outside the age or grade level of their document because the age or grade level was not listed on their documents at the time they were issued.

To use this option, the teacher must have three years of full-time teaching experience prior to July 1, 2003 in the disability area authorized by the credential. In addition, the experience must be in the age or grade level authorized in the option. This assignment option does not result in the issuance of a credential. Employers will need to keep a record of the appropriate experience to make available to county offices of education for

assignment monitoring purposes. The current and approved authorization changes are illustrated in the chart below.

Teachers who do not have the three years of appropriate experience must obtain the ECE Certificate for service to mild/moderate and moderate/severe students or the Education Specialist Credential for service to low incidence disability areas.

Change to Grade/Age Level Authorization Assignment Option

Special Education Credential	Current Special Education Grade/Age Level Authorization	Approved Special Education Age/Grade Level Authorization Assignment Option *
General	Grades K-12 for all special education areas	Preschool for mild/moderate and moderate/severe areas Age birth to preschool for low incidence areas
Standard	Grades K-12 for all special education areas	Preschool for mild/moderate and moderate/severe areas Age birth to preschool for low incidence areas
Ryan Specialist	Grades preschool, K-12 and adults for all special education areas	Age birth to pre-K for low incidence areas
Education Specialist	Grades K-12 for mild/moderate and moderate/severe Age birth to pre-K for mild/moderate and moderate/severe if holds Early Childhood Special Education Credential/Certificate Age birth to age 22 for low incidence areas	No change/Does not apply

*** Assignment Option Requirements**

- 1) Hold appropriate special education credential (document must be listed in regulations)
- 2) Three years teaching full time experience completed prior to July 1, 2003
 - at age level listed in option for the type of special education credential held
 - in the subject area of credential held
- 3) Teacher consent

Questions

If you have further questions concerning this regulation, please contact the Information Services Unit toll-free at (888) 921-2682 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., weekdays or by e-mail at credentials@ctc.ca.gov.

Approved Amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 5 Section 80020.1, Pertaining to Additional Assignment Authorizations for Specific Special Education Credentials

Title 5 Section 80020.1. Additional Assignment Authorizations for Specific Special Education Credentials

- (a) The holder of the following credentials may be assigned, with his or her consent, to teach preschool age students in the disability area(s) authorized by the credential.

The holder must have successfully taught preschool age students for a minimum of three years prior to July 1, 2003 in the disability area(s) authorized by the credential:

- (1) Standard Elementary and Standard Secondary Teaching Credential with a minor in Mentally Retarded,
 - (2) Standard Limited Specialized Preparation Teaching Credential with a major in Mentally Retarded,
 - (3) Exceptional Children Teaching Credential with a major in Mentally Retarded,
 - (4) Standard Restricted Teaching Credential with a minor in Trainable Mentally Retarded or Educable Mentally Retarded, and
 - (5) Special Secondary Teaching Credential with a major in Mentally Retarded.
- (b) The holder of the following credentials may be assigned, with his or her consent, to teach students ages birth to preschool in the disability area(s) authorized by the credential. The holder must have successfully taught students ages birth to preschool for a minimum of three years prior to July 1, 2003 in the disability area(s) authorized by the credential:
- (1) Standard Elementary and Standard Secondary Teaching Credential with a minor in Speech and Hearing Handicapped, Deaf and Severely Hard-of-Hearing, Visually Handicapped, or Orthopedically Handicapped Including the Cerebral Palsied,
 - (2) Standard Limited Specialized Preparation Teaching Credential with a major in Speech and Hearing Handicapped, Deaf and Severely Hard-of-Hearing, Visually Handicapped, or Orthopedically Handicapped Including the Cerebral Palsied,
 - (3) Exceptional Children Teaching Credential with a major in Speech Correction and Lip Reading, Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing, Visually Handicapped, or Orthopedically Handicapped Including the Cerebral Palsied,
 - (4) Standard Restricted Teaching Credential with a minor in Speech and Hearing Therapy, Deaf and Severely Hard-of-Hearing, Visually Handicapped, Orthopedically Handicapped Including the Cerebral Palsied, Deaf-Blind, or Severely Hard-of-Hearing, and
 - (5) Special Secondary Teaching Credential with a major in Correction of Speech Defects, Deaf, Lip Reading, or Partially Sighted Child, and Blind.
- (c) The holder of the following credentials may be assigned, with his or her consent, to teach students ages birth to pre-kindergarten in the disability area(s) authorized by the credential. The holder must have successfully taught students ages birth to pre-kindergarten for a minimum of three years prior to July 1, 2003 in the disability area(s) authorized by the credential:
- (1) Specialist Instruction Teaching Credential with a major in Communication Handicapped, Physically Handicapped or Visually Handicapped.

Note: Authority cited: Section 44225(q), Education Code. Reference: Sections 44225(b) and 44225(e), Education Code.

